Rural Sanitation Programme in Gujarat and Maharashtra

5547. PROF. PRAFUL PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rural Sanitation Programme has been revised in recent past; and

(b) if so, the amount of funds allocated and the details of achievements made in the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra during the last three years both in the revised policy and under the previous policy so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) The guidelines of the Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme were revised in March, 1991.

(b) Pending revision of the guidelines for implementation of the programme, no funds were released in 1988-89 and 1989-90 to the State Governments including the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra. In March, 1991, a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs was released to the State Government of Gujarat and Rs. 15 lakhs to Maharashtra. In 1991-92, no funds have been released so far.

The State Government of Maharashtra had reported construction of 687 individual household latrines in 1988-89. The State Government of Maharashtra had reported an expenditure of Rs. 18.23 lakhs in 1988-89 and Rs. 6.98 lakhs in 1989-90. No expenditure was incurred in 1990-91. No report has been received against Rs. 15 lakhs released in March , 1991.

The State Government of Gujarat has not reported any physical progress for the period from 1988-89 to 1991-92 so far. An expenditure of Rs. 56.49 lakhs in 1988-89 and Rs. 29 lakhs in 1989-90 (upto December, 1989) was reported by Gujarat Water Supply and Sewerage Board. There after, no expenditure has been reported so far.

[*Translation*]

Construction work under I.A.Y.

5548. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be piease to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued directives to the State Governments that responsibility of constructing houses under Indira Awaas Yojana should be put on the beneficiaries the selves;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that the construction work of such houses is still being carried out by the departmental or outsider contractors and substandard houses are being constructed as a result thereof; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) houses are required to conform to cost-norms prescribed in this behalf and requirements of the plinth area which is prescribed to be 17-20 sq.m. In view of the experience that if the construction of the houses is left to the beneficiaries themselves, there will not only be economy in quality of construction but a large measure of personal satisfaction to them, the involvement of the beneficiaries at all stages of the construction of IAY houses has been emphasised.

However, neither any design for IAY houses nor the use of any specific material has been prescribed under the guidelines